



3634  
#5/31/2003

PTO/SB/21 (08-00)

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| <b>TRANSMITTAL FORM</b><br><i>(to be used for all correspondence after initial filing)</i> | Applicati n Number     | 10/024,746   |
|  | Filing Date            | 12/19/2001   |
|  | First Named Inventor   | Michael Hock |
|  | Group Art Unit         | 3634         |
|  | Examiner Name          |              |
| Total Number of Pages in This Submission   | Attorney Docket Number | 4680-00001   |

| ENCLOSURES (check all that apply)   |   |  |
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| <input type="checkbox"/> Fee Transmittal Form<br><input type="checkbox"/> Fee Attached<br><input type="checkbox"/> Amendment / Reply<br><input type="checkbox"/> After Final<br><input type="checkbox"/> Affidavits/declaration(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Extension of Time Request<br><input type="checkbox"/> Express Abandonment Request<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement<br><input type="checkbox"/> Certified Copy of Priority Document(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts/ Incomplete Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Response to Missing Parts under 37 CFR 1.52 or 1.53 | <input type="checkbox"/> Assignment Papers (for an Application)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Licensing-related Papers<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition<br><input type="checkbox"/> Petition to Convert to a Provisional Application<br><input type="checkbox"/> Power of Attorney, Revocation Change of Correspondence Address<br><input type="checkbox"/> Terminal Disclaimer<br><input type="checkbox"/> Request for Refund<br><input type="checkbox"/> CD, Number of CD(s) _____ | <input type="checkbox"/> After Allowance Communication to Group<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Board of Appeals and Interferences<br><input type="checkbox"/> Appeal Communication to Group (Appeal Notice, Brief, Reply Brief)<br><input type="checkbox"/> Proprietary Information<br><input type="checkbox"/> Status Letter<br><input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other Enclosure(s) (please identify below):<br>Return Receipt Postcard |
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| Firm or Individual name                    | Michael E. Taken, Reg. No. 28,120<br>Andrus, Sceales, Starke & Sawall, LLP |
| Signature                                  | <i>Michael E. Taken</i>  |
| Date                                       | 01/17/2003   |

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| Signature   | <i>Dorothy A. Hauser</i> | Date 01/17/2003 |



PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of

Michael Hock

Application No. 10/024,746

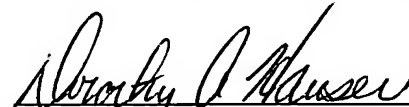
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Group Art Unit: 3634

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner of Patents  
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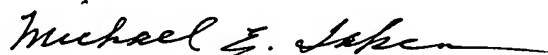
Sir:

Enclosed are copies of the references listed on the attached "Information Disclosure Statement By Applicant" PTO Form 1449. Also enclosed is a Communication dated November 18, 2002 including Search Report from the European Patent Office in counterpart European Patent Application No. 01126833.1. The attached Information Disclosure Statement lists those references from the European Search Report which have not already been cited herein.

In the event this Information Disclosure Statement crosses in the mail with a first Office Action, it is hereby stated, in accordance with 37 CFR 1.197(c)(1) and 37 CFR 1.97(e)(1), that each item of information contained in this Information Disclosure Statement was first cited in any Communication from a foreign Patent Office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,

ANDRUS, SCEALES, STARKE & SAWALL, LLP



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Attorney Docket No: 4680-00001

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# Patentanwälte

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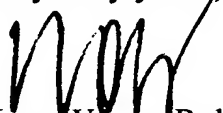
**US-Patent Application 10/024,746 (Hock), Wagon Automotive GmbH**

Dear Michael:

Enclosed please find the European Search Report of November 18, 2002 from the parallel EPC-application as well as English abstracts of the first and the last mentioned reference. The second reference has been cited by IDS in the US-case already.

Please take the necessary steps to file a supplemental IDS for this new prior art.

Very truly yours,

  
Hans W. von Rohr



|   |  |   |                                  |
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| <b>Form PTO<br/>PATENT &amp; TRADEMARK OFFICE</b> | U.S. Department of Commerce<br>Patent and Trademark Office | Atty. Docket No.<br><b>4680-00001</b>   | Appln. No.:<br><b>10/024,746</b> |
|   |  | Applicant<br><b>Michael Hock</b>        |                                  |
|   |  | Filing Date<br><b>December 19, 2001</b> | Group Art Unit                   |

| U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                    |      |      |       |          |                              |
|-----------------------|--|--------------------|------|------|-------|----------|------------------------------|
| *EXAMINER<br>INITIAL  |  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE | NAME | CLASS | SUBCLASS | FILING DATE<br>IF PPROPRIATE |
|                       |  |                    |      |      |       |          |                              |
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| FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS |  |                    |            |         |       |          |             |    |
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|                          |  | DOCUMENT<br>NUMBER | DATE       | COUNTRY | CLASS | SUBCLASS | TRANSLATION |    |
|                          |  |                    |            |         |       |          | Yes         | No |
|                          |  | EP0997331          | 05/03/2000 | Europe  |       |          |             |    |
|                          |  | DE3934590          | 04/25/1991 | Germany |       |          |             |    |
|                          |  |                    |            |         |       |          |             |    |
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| OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.) |  |  |
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